

Bill Fact Sheet – December 5, 2025 https://legilist.com Bill page: https://legilist.com/bill/110/s/1853

S 1853

Congress: 110 (2007–2009, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Science, Technology, Communications

Introduced: Jul 23, 2007

Current Status: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 707.

Latest Action: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 707. (Apr 22, 2008)

Official Text: https://www.congress.gov/bill/110th-congress/senate-bill/1853

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Lautenberg, Frank R. [D-NJ]

Party: Democratic • State: NJ • Chamber: Senate

Cosponsors (8 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Inouye, Daniel K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Jul 23, 2007
Sen. Kerry, John F. [D-MA]	$D\cdotMA$		Jul 23, 2007
Sen. McCain, John [R-AZ]	$R \cdot AZ$		Jul 23, 2007
Sen. McCaskill, Claire [D-MO]	D · MO		Jul 23, 2007
Sen. Smith, Gordon H. [R-OR]	$R \cdot OR$		Jul 23, 2007
Sen. Snowe, Olympia J. [R-ME]	$R \cdot ME$		Jul 23, 2007
Sen. Stevens, Ted [R-AK]	$R \cdot AK$		Jul 23, 2007
Sen. Feingold, Russell D. [D-WI]	D · WI		Mar 5, 2008

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee	Senate	Reported By	Apr 22, 2008

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
110 HR 3281	Related bill	Aug 2, 2007: Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR E1684-1685)

Community Broadband Act of 2007 - Prohibits any state or local government statute, regulation, or other legal requirement from having the effect of prohibiting any public provider from providing advanced telecommunications capability, or related services, to any person or any public or private entity.

Defines "public provider" as a state or a political subdivision or instrumentality thereof, an Indian tribe, or any entity owned, controlled, or otherwise affiliated with a state, subdivision, instrumentality, or tribe.

Requires any public provider that regulates competing providers of advanced telecommunications capability or services to apply its ordinances, rules, and policies without discrimination in favor of itself or any other provider it owns or is affiliated with.

Requires a public provider, before it provides advanced telecommunications capability or services, to publish notice, provide local citizens and private-sector entities with an opportunity to be heard, identify any special capabilities or services to be provided in low-income areas or other demographically or geographically defined areas, and provide private-sector entities an opportunity to bid to provide the capability or services.

Declares that the provisions of the two paragraphs immediately above do not apply when: (1) a public provider provides such capabilities or services other than to the public or to such classes of users as to be effectively available to the public; or (2) a state of emergency has been declared by the President, that state's governor, or any other elected local official authorized by law to declare a state of emergency.

Prohibits the use of federal funds to assist a public provider in reviving or renewing an advanced telecommunications project that fails due to bankruptcy (unless in a presidentially-declared major disaster area) or is terminated by a public provider.

Actions Timeline

- Apr 22, 2008: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Reported by Senator Inouye with amendments. With written report No. 110-330.
- Apr 22, 2008: Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 707.
- Oct 30, 2007: Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Ordered to be reported with amendments favorably.
- Jul 23, 2007: Introduced in Senate
- Jul 23, 2007: Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S9778-9779)
- Jul 23, 2007: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. (text of measure as introduced: CR S9779)